



THE HISTORY CHANNEL® PRESENTS:
The Revolution: Rebellion to Revolution
Part 2 of a 13 part original series

The American Revolution laid the foundation for the success of the United States, yet the viability of the nation was not always imminent and the quest for liberty was no simple endeavor. As the Colonists found themselves becoming increasingly independent, the fiercest and most powerful army in the world stood between them and a free, independent, sovereign America. Small skirmishes between colonists and representatives of the British throne escalated in 1775. In order to pacify what he viewed as a small rebellion, the King sent a contingent of Red Coats from the seemingly omnipotent British Army across the Atlantic Ocean. However, as the days and months progressed, the Red Coats, their military leaders and King George III himself slowly realized the ferocity, courage and collective will of the colonists they faced. A Revolution was underway.

The Revolution: Rebellion to Revolution chronicles the beginning stages of the war as full-scale fighting breaks out across New England. From Paul Revere's famous midnight ride to the risky, tip-toeing assault on Fort Ticonderoga, this program covers the essential events in the first phase of the war. The early days of the rebellion transformed from what many thought was a disorganized and ill-kempt pocket of militiamen with petty gripes about taxes and what they perceived to be the over-stretched authority of the Crown. Yet slowly it became clear, even to the Patriots themselves, that this conflict was much more than a skirmish—it was a Revolution in the making. *Rebellion to Revolution* reveals the process of building Revolution as it unfolded in its early years. This second episode in *The Revolution* series is a riveting depiction of the eruption of the war. This program follows the gripping story as British Generals sail into port, and the newly founded American military forges straight into the heart of the British Army, leaving their families and their life in the colonies behind for a greater cause – freedom.

Curriculum Links

The Revolution: Rebellion to Revolution would be useful for high school and middle school classes on United States History, Military History, European History, and Colonial History. Teachers may want to use clips from this series to animate their lesson plans and course units, or chose individual episodes from this series to highlight a particular chapter in the Revolutionary era. This documentary fulfills several National Standards guidelines as outlined by the National Council for History Education including: (1) Values, Beliefs, Political Ideas and Institutions, (2) Conflict and Cooperation, (3) Patterns of Social and Political Interaction and (4) Comparative History of Major Developments.

Vocabulary

Using the dictionary at www.merriamwebster.com, an internet resource such as www.history.com, or an encyclopedia, students should define or explain the significance of the following terms:

Ambivalent
Ardent
Cambridge, MA
Compulsory
Crusade

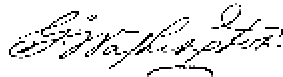
Hostility
Immaculate
Serendipity
Striate
Wreaking

American Revolution Facts

DID YOU KNOW that there were two Boston Tea Parties? The first one was the famous incident in 1773, but another one occurred on March 7th, 1774. The two “parties” combined cost the British government around \$3 million dollars in lost commodities.

WERE YOU AWARE that women served in the Continental Army? Much to the surprise of many, women were not just cooks and nurses; they were actually involved in many violent battles.

CAN YOU READ George Washington’s signature from one of his official letters to congress?



Comprehension Questions

1. Why was Fort Ticonderoga so important to both the British and the Continental Armies? Who won the battle to control it in May 1775?
2. Who is Ethan Allen? What role did he have in the battles of 1775?
3. Why was Benedict Arnold so well-respected? Where did he come from? What is his legacy?
4. What happened at the Battle of Lexington and Concord? Why is it so famous?
5. What was the conflict between Ethan Allen and Benedict Arnold? Who was at fault in the feud? Did their jealousy and bitterness interfere with the mission?

6. When this episode ends, could you predict the outcome of the American Revolution? What information would you use to make predictions about the outcome?

Extended Activity

The Real Deal – The Continental Congress was vital in shaping the immediate future of the nation in the 1770s. The Congress served to unite the previously separated 13 colonies which had diverse interests and populations. The gentlemen that met in Philadelphia came from all over the country, bringing with them opinions, religious beliefs and outlooks on the future stability of this new nation in formation. As a class, have students simulate the debates of the Continental Congress. Students should pretend to be real people or should be assigned a character, and should do research prior to engaging in the debate. Make sure your students have a prevalent role, which may necessitate 2 group sessions versus one large class debate. Be sure to debate the basics – the pros, cons and potential solutions to a war and the also concerns of English policymaking. Feel free to have the students dress in character!

Resources for Additional Information and Research

General Resources

The Complete History of the American Revolution and the Revolutionary War:

www.americanrevolution.com/Links.htm

Emory University's website with primary sources including documents, paintings and speeches regarding the American Revolution:

<http://www.law.emory.edu/FEDERAL/conpict.html#const>

Maps from the Revolutionary War era:

<http://memory.loc.gov/ammem/gmdhtml/armhtml/armhome.html>

Military Resources on the American Revolution including digitized photographs of original paintings and drawings of battles:

<http://www.archives.gov/research/american-revolution/pictures/index.html>

Online Resources for Rebellion to Revolution

A Museum in honor of General Henry Knox:

<http://www.generalknoxmuseum.org/>

Biography and timeline of Benedict Arnold's personal and military life presented by The Independence Hall Association in Philadelphia:

<http://www.ushistory.org/valleyforge/served/arnold.html>

Fort Ticonderoga – A national historic landmark:

<http://www.fort-ticonderoga.org/>

Maps from the Revolutionary War era:

<http://memory.loc.gov/ammem/gmdhtml/armhtml/armhome.html>

Official website of the Ethan Allen Homestead:

<http://www.ethanallenhomestead.org/>

Professional reenactment website dedicated solely to factual accounts of the Battle of Lexington and Concord:

<http://www.battleroad.org/>

Book Resources for *Rebellion to Revolution*

Anderson, Fred. *George Washington Remembers: Reflections on the French and Indian War*. Rowman & Littlefield Publishers, Inc, 2004.

Cox, Clinton. *Come all You Brave Soldiers: Blacks in the Revolutionary War*. Scholastic Press, 1999.

Ketchum, Richard M. *Decisive Day: The Battle for Bunker Hill*. Owl Books, 1999.

Lonergan, Thomas J. *Henry Knox: George Washington's Confidant, General of Artillery, and America's First Secretary of War*. Picton Press, 2003.

Stein, R. Conrad. *Ethan Allen and the Green Mountain Boys*. (Cornerstones of Freedom, Second Series). Children's Press, 2003.

Tourtellet, Arthur Bernon. *Lexington and Concord: The Beginning of the War of the American Revolution*. W.W. Norton & Company, 2000.

Wallace, Audrey. *Benedict Arnold: Misunderstood Hero?* Burd Street Press, 2003.